

Wycombe set for 'clash of the season'

MIKE Keen, the Wycombe Wanderers' manager, expects to name a full-strength side for the key clash against Slough Town at Loakes Park on Saturday — the first of two contests in five days against the 'old enemy' that could ultimately decide the destination of this year's Berger Isthmian League championship.

Following the surprising recent slip-up of champions Enfield, who have lost their last two matches, Wycombe and Slough are probably the two main championship

contenders in an open race.

With seven wins and a draw in their last eight games, Wycombe have emerged out of the pack and currently stand just one point behind the leaders with two games in hand.

Slough have been close contenders for the whole season and are still well placed although having played several fewer matches than all of their rivals. Provided they win all their games in hand they would be clear at the top — but that is a very big 'if'.

So much hinges on these local derbies, the second of which is at Wexham Park on New Year's Day.

Mr Keen declined to make a prediction. "Christmas is a

funny period," he said earlier this week. "With all that food and drink around anything can happen. But my lads realise that we've got a bit of a chance and won't over-indulge themselves."

Borg back

Wanderers must have a great chance of winning the first of these two 'clashes of the season' and so gaining a great psychological boost. After all they have not been beaten at home in the league since the first day of the season. Since then they have had 12 wins and three draws.

Full-back George Borg served out his one week suspension and will return at left-back for Jim Richardson, who acquitted himself well at Woking. But the young Scotsman is off to Norway

next week to play full-time soccer.

Another player recently to have served a suspension is Tony Price. He is likely to return as substitute provided a minor leg injury clears up.

Slough, who were due to play against Staines on Tuesday night, hope they will have the former Watford player Pat Morrissey fit following a leg injury.

Morrissey, one of three big signings at the start of the season, was the man who knocked Wanderers out of the F.A. Trophy two seasons ago with two goals for Hayes.

The other two major signings are former Enfield mid-field player Micky O'Sullivan, signed for a reported £3,000 sum, and Eggie James the former dangerous Woking striker.

Slough are managed by Laurie Churchill, who once spent a short spell as coach at Loakes Park. But the most recognisable Slough face for the Wycombe faithful is Terry Reardon.

Now 37, the former Blues mid-field player is said to be playing as well as ever and will no doubt imprint his mark on what should be an epic encounter in front of a sizable crowd.

Scott bags five in eight goal spree

Wycombe Wanderers Reserves 8, Corinthian Casuals Reserves 0

TERRY Scott hit five goals from a total of eight for Wycombe Reserves as they annihilated a 10-man Corinthian Casuals team 8-0 at Loakes Park on Thursday evening.

Scott, playing his second game for the reserves, appeared to revel in the heavy conditions against the weak Casuals side.

They are firmly entrenched at the bottom of the Suburban League North Division with no points and one goal to their name from 12 matches. After their visit to Loakes Park they had conceded 51 goals.

All the same it was the Casuals' heaviest defeat of

the season and Wycombe's biggest since joining the league in August. As well as the five scored by Scott, Paul West hit two and Andy Hunt, who did not seem to enjoy the conditions as much as the others, netted one in the second half.

Keith Mead and Howard Kennedy encouraged the younger players to take advantage of the numerous mistakes made by the Casuals — something they did to great effect.

It is worth noting that just past the half-way stage of the League, Wycombe have played 38 players in the reserves, an indication of their determination to give local

youngsters a chance to 'prove' themselves.

WYCOMBE: C. Way, T. Lee, M. Richardson, K. Mead, P. Bycroft, P. West, K. Wilson, H. Kennedy, A. Hunt, T. Scott, N. Shrimpton (sub R. Clarke 70 mins). Subs: K. Stansbridge (not used).

SUBURBAN LEAGUE NORTH DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Harrow	17	14	2	1	59	19	30
Farnboro	16	10	3	3	39	20	23
Hounslow	17	9	5	3	28	19	23
Staines	16	10	2	4	46	12	22
Slough	15	9	4	2	41	11	22
Wycombe	17	9	3	5	38	20	21
Wembley	18	8	5	5	35	26	21
Wealdstone	16	9	2	5	34	20	20
Feltham	16	7	3	6	22	26	17
Hillingdon	16	7	3	6	30	25	17
Chertsey	17	7	2	8	26	47	16
Egham	20	4	5	11	28	47	13
Fleet	19	4	3	12	25	48	11
Southall	19	3	5	11	16	42	11
Addlestone	15	3	3	9	15	17	9
Camberley	17	2	2	13	17	52	6
Corinthian	12	0	0	12	1	51	0

BERGER ISTHMIAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION (Up to Dec 20)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Enfield	29	14	8	7	58	34	50
Wycombe	27	14	7	6	51	30	49
Sutton	26	12	8	6	49	37	44
Harrow	26	12	6	8	45	29	42
Dagenham	28	11	9	8	53	43	42
Slough	22	11	8	3	31	20	41
Dulwich	26	10	10	6	45	37	40
Leytonstone	24	11	6	7	44	35	39
Bromley	26	10	7	9	44	44	37
Hayes	25	11	4	10	23	28	37
*Barking	31	10	8	13	41	52	36
Woking	29	10	3	16	32	47	33
Boreham Wood	24	8	8	8	33	40	32
Tooting	27	8	5	14	27	36	29
Leatherhead	29	6	11	12	21	33	29
Carshalton	24	9	2	13	32	48	29
Staines	28	7	7	12	30	37	28
Walthamstow	26	8	4	14	26	42	28
Hitchin	21	7	6	8	29	25	27
Croydon	23	5	12	6	21	21	27
Harlow	24	5	10	9	28	37	25
Hendon	23	6	7	10	30	37	25

*2 points deducted.